



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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## SEASONAL AREA RESTRICTIONS ON FISHING IN CARIBBEAN FEDERAL WATERS BEGIN AT 12:01 A.M., LOCAL TIME, DECEMBER 1, 2007

NOAA Fisheries Service would like to remind the public that commercial and recreational fishing for or possession of red hind is prohibited from 12:01 a.m., local time, December 1 through February 28 each year in or from the area off the west coast of Puerto Rico (defined as those waters in the U.S. Caribbean federal waters west of 67° 10' W longitude).

Also, during this time, fishing for any species is prohibited in federal waters of the following red hind spawning aggregation areas:

- Lang Bank red hind spawning aggregation area, east of St. Croix, bounded by rhumb lines connecting, in order, the following coordinates:
  - A 17°50.2' N 64°27.9' W
  - B 17°50.1' N 64°26.1' W
  - C 17°49.2' N 64°25.8' W
  - D 17°48.6' N 64°25.8' W
  - E 17°48.1' N 64°26.1' W
  - F 17°47.5' N 64°26.9' W
  - A 17°50.2' N 64°27.9' W
- Bajo de Cico
  - A 18°15.7' N 67°26.4' W
  - B 18°15.7' N 67°23.2' W
  - C 18°12.7' N 67°23.4' W
  - D 18°12.7' N 67°26.4' W
  - A 18°15.7' N 67°26.4' W
- Tourmaline Bank
  - A 18°11.2' N 67°22.4' W
  - B 18°11.2' N 67°19.2' W
  - C 18°08.2' N 67°19.2' W
  - D 18°08.2' N 67°22.4' W
  - A 18°11.2' N 67°22.4' W
- Abrir La Sierra Bank
  - A 18°06.5' N 67°26.9' W
  - B 18°06.5' N 67°23.9' W
  - C 18°03.5' N 67°23.9' W
  - D 18°03.5' N 67°26.9' W
  - A 18°06.5' N 67°26.9' W

Additionally, fishing for any species and anchoring activities by fishing vessels within the Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD) is prohibited year round:

- Hind Bank MCD, south of St. Thomas, is bounded by rhumb lines connecting, in order, the following coordinates:

A 18°13.2' N 65°06.0' W  
B 18°13.2' N 64°59.0' W  
C 18°11.8' N 64°59.0' W  
D 18°10.7' N 65°06.0' W  
A 18°13.2' N 65°06.0' W

This action complies with regulations implemented under Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to address required provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and is necessary to protect these resources. The Caribbean Fishery Management Council, in cooperation with NOAA Fisheries Service, developed the amendment.

### How Can We Improve These Fishery Bulletins?

If you have any suggestions on how we may improve future fishery bulletins please contact:

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If you would like to receive these fishery bulletins via e-mail as soon as they are published, please e-mail us at the address below. You will still receive a hard copy of these bulletins through the mail.

E-mail: [SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:SERO.Communications.Comments@noaa.gov)  
and include: (1) "Request for Electronic Fishery Bulletins" in the subject line; and (2) your preferred e-mail address in the body of the e-mail.

This bulletin provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this bulletin and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*. For a copy of the *Federal Register* notice contact Jason Rueter; [Jason.Rueter@noaa.gov](mailto:Jason.Rueter@noaa.gov); telephone 727-824-5350.